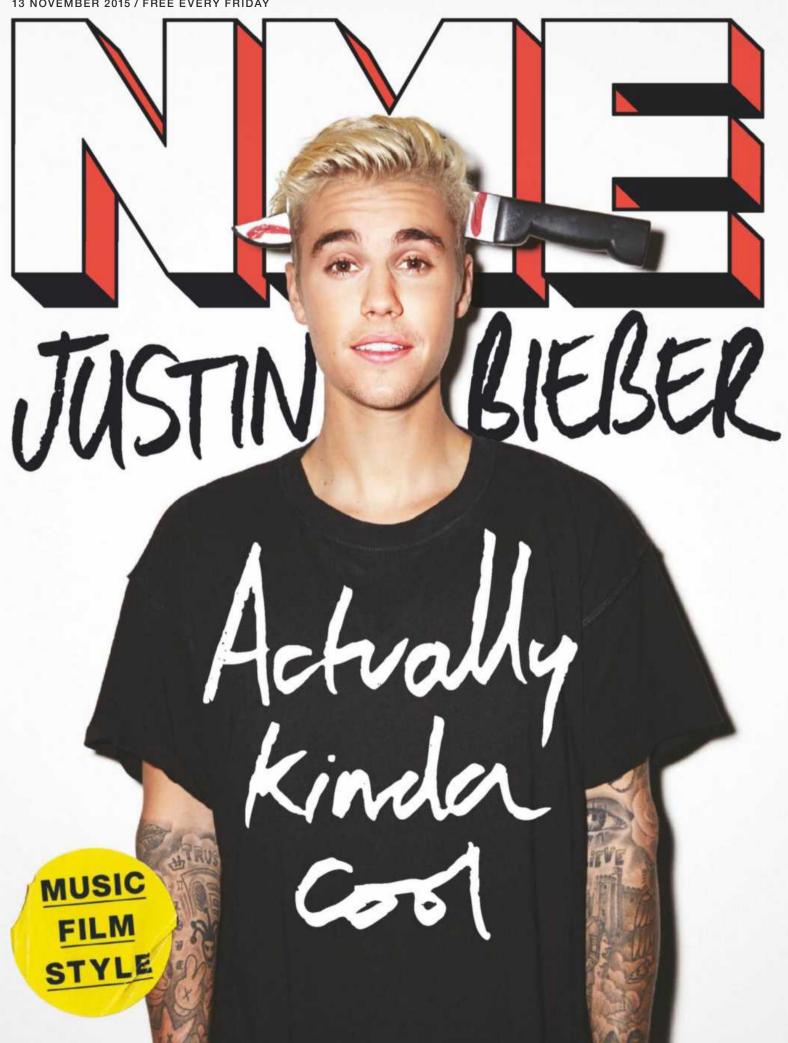
13 NOVEMBER 2015 / FREE EVERY FRIDAY



I OBSERVE THINGS

AND REMEMBER THEM VERY ACCURATELY.

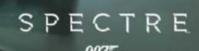
I THINK THAT EVEN THE WAY IN WHICH

A MAN SHAVES IN THE MORNING

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#### Hello...

NO, YOU HAVEN'T GONE mad or been beaten senseless and drugged by the person who handed you a copy of this week's issue

- that really is Justin Bieber on the cover of *NME*. Why? Because right now Biebs is being reborn before our eyes, and it's the most interesting and mind-boggling music story of 2015 by a mile.

The idea that the weird and irritating 15-year-old who released the abominable 'Baby' back in 2010 could ever be anything other than the world's most annoying musical butcher was unthinkable. That he's reinventing himself as not only a seemingly funny, likeable guy, but is also working with the likes of Rick Rubin, Kanye West and Nas, is nothing short of miraculous.

Don't worry, though, it's still completely fine to take the p\*ss out him, as a bunch of US celebs did on the recent *Comedy Central Roast* (sample gag: "You literally are a guy who has it all – except for respect, love, friends, good parents and a Grammy"). The difference is, now he's in on the joke.

#### **MIKE WILLIAMS**

Editor-in-Chief @itsmikelike Grimes' new album is reviewed on p34

COVER STORY

### **20** Justin Bieber

Is the car-crash kid on the path to redemption via – shock! – some great tunes?

**FEATURES** 

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Rage against the machine? Not this week. We salute the tech that changed our lives forever

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Rap's most intriguing new hero speaks. If you haven't heard 'Trap Queen' yet, you soon will...

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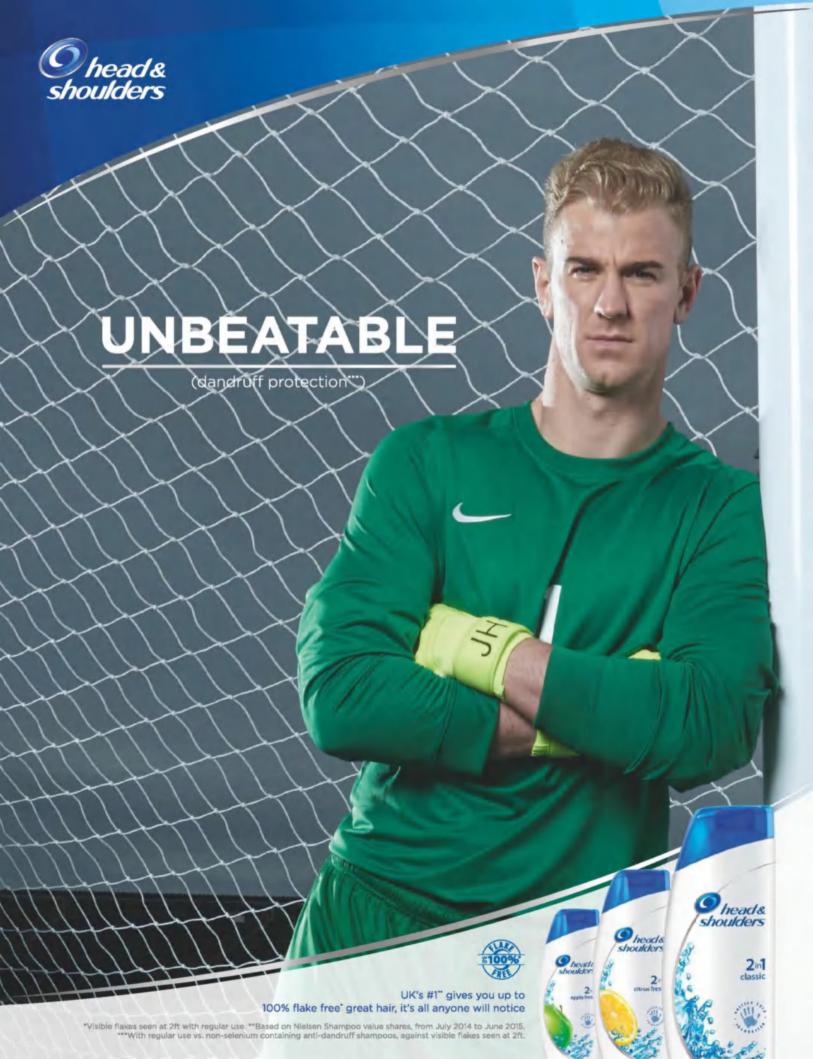
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# AGENDA

WHAT EVERYONE'S TALKING ABOUT THIS WEEK

One week until Adele's new album!

'25' is out Nov 20 – but it's already smashing records



THE COUNTDOWN to the release of Adele's third album is on. It's a mere

seven days until '25', the follow-up to 2011's 30 million-selling '21', is released. Yet the year's most hotly anticipated album is already breaking records of its own, thanks to mighty first single 'Hello' – and here are just a few.

'Hello' has been Number One in nearly every country on Earth Three days after its release, 'Hello' topped iTunes charts in 102 countries, while '25' was Number One in 93 countries on pre-orders alone.

Adele broke the one-week streaming record by four million

The 7.32 million plays of 'Hello' was a one-week streaming record in the UK, beating our cover star Justin Bieber's measly 3.8 million for 'What Do You Mean?'.

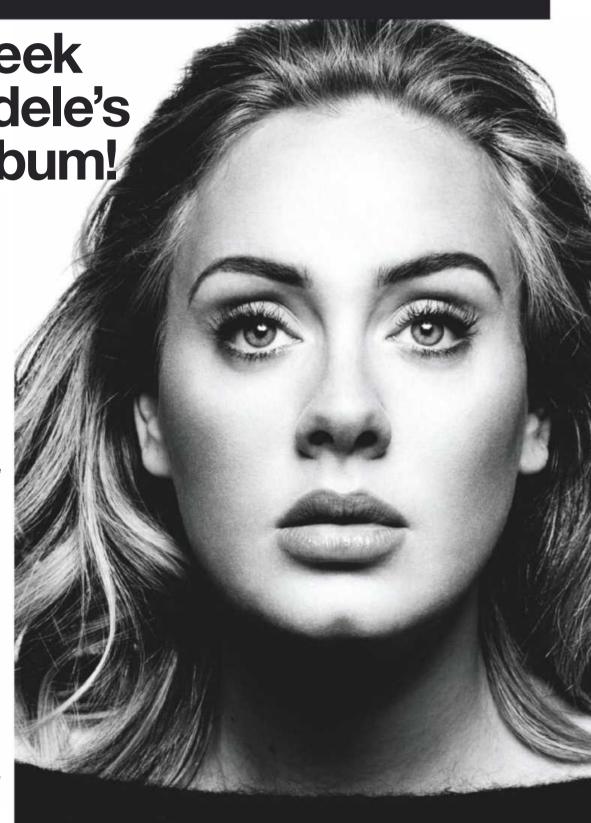
It's the fastest-selling single of 2015 in the UK

That's what 333,000 sales and 7.32 million streams will do.

Two people have Shazamed 'Hello' per second since release But really, who doesn't recognise that voice?

She obliterated the US record for the most downloads

With 1.1 million download sales, the Tottenham-born singer shot to the top of the Billboard Hot 100 chart.





WTF facts V's QI Elves offer up their maddest

music knowledge

NO SUCH THING AS A FISH the award-winning spin-off from BBC panel show QI - is set to be the first ever podcast to be released on vinyl. Fronted by the show's researchers aka the QI Elves -James Harkin, Anna Ptaszynski, Andrew Hunter Murray and Dan Schreiber - we asked them for their strangest ever music facts.

James: "Writer George Eliot was the first person to use the phrase 'pop music'. In 1862 she wrote: "There is too much pop for the thorough enjoyment of the chamber music."

Andrew: "In 1974 Portugal's Eurovision song, 'E Depois Do Adeus', was used to start a revolution. When played on the radio, that was the signal for people to overthrow the government."



James: "The UK's topselling music cassette in 2011 was 'I'll Never Stop' by \*Nsync, which sold 11 copies all year, despite being released in 2000. It was also the top-selling music cassette of 2009 and 2010, selling 23 copies and 13 copies respectively. No one knows why."

Andrew: "There have been three Top 50 songs in the British charts written exclusively in Latin."



The QI Elves: (I-r): Andrew Hunter Murray, Dan Schreiber, Anna Ptaszynski and James Harkin

of the word Britpop is in the NME. It was used to describe the Sex Pistols in the late 1970s."



James: "In China, at the end of day, the end of train rides, the end of school days and when malls are about to close they all play the song 'Going Home' by Kenny G. He has no idea why they do it, and nor do most locals."

Anna: "The first recorded instance of musical mania - as in 'Beatlemania' occurred around Franz Liszt in the 1830s. Liszt was also the first performer women threw their underwear at during concerts."



Anna: "President Obama won the Grammy for 'Best Spoken Word Album' twice - for 'Dreams From My Father' in 2006 and The Audacity Of Hope' in 2008."

'No Such Thing As A Fish' is released on November 20. The QI Elves are currently on tour





Kanye's barber Rihanna's father claims that Kanye spends \$500 every day on haircuts.



**Kidman** She returns to the DC universe again, to play the villain in



Danny Boyle Trainspotting director was "in grief" over David Bowie refusing to let him use his music in a film.



A man was arrested for stabbing two people in RZA's home at a party held by his adult children when the rapper was out.











Gadgets & Gizmos





Gifts For the Office Gifts





# Is Gutterdämmerung the maddest rock'n'roll film of all time?

The bewildering story behind this most heavy metal of silent pictures, hitting stages near you next year

A FALLEN ANGEL THROWS A magical guitar from the heavens for an evil priest, a rock'n'roll tank general, a bazooka henchman and a stuffed-trousered cowboy to fight over through the deserts of California and the World War 1 trenches of Belgium. This is cinematic epic *Gutterdämmerung*, starring Iggy Pop, Henry Rollins, Lemmy, Josh Homme, Grace Jones and Slash. It's the brainchild of Björn Tagemose, director, writer and the only person on Earth who knows what's actually going on.

"Everything's been shrouded in secrecy," says Jesse Hughes from Eagles Of Death Metal, one of the film's stars. "Each person in it doesn't really know what the other characters are and how they connect. No one really knows

what the actual storyline is. The first I saw of my own performance was in the trailer. It's like *Alice In Wonderland* in rock'n'roll hell."

Jesse plays "a hot cowboy with a d\*ck bigger than John Holmes [legendary porn star]", and all of the film is in black-and-white. A live band will be providing the soundtrack as the film tours next year, playing music composed of contributions from all of its





superstars. The manner in which a silent movie was given music by a piano player," Hughes explains, "will be replaced by a rock'n'roll band. Björn's taken lggy Pop's current band, one hell of a brilliant set of musicians, and as it tours around the world it will incorporate the performers who live there, to add to this roving feel to it. We all believe in it, even though we didn't necessarily know what we're believing in."

Gutterdämmerung will tour

summer 2016

#### Meet the cast

Director and writer Björn Tagemose explains which muso plays what

#### **IGGY POP**



Plays: A spoilt angel who didn't get into Heaven, because God doesn't trust him and,

instead, gives him a guitar.

The director says: "He is the centrepiece. Iggy throws the guitar down to Earth as he doesn't agree with rock'n'roll being taken away from the planet and everything becoming peaceful."

#### **HENRY ROLLINS**



Plays: An evil priest chasing down the couple who discover the guitar in the desert.

The director says: "Henry is the opposite of himself and everything he stands for in this story!"

#### LEMMY



Plays: A general who leads the rock'n'roll army. The director says: "He's not in the film for long,

but he's still very present."

#### **JOSH HOMME**



Plays: Lemmy's bazooka-toting henchman.

The director says: "He

has a bazooka which is called Death Dominion after Dylan Thomas' poem, 'And Death Shall Have No Dominion'."

#### **GRACE JONES**



Plays: The gatekeeper of Purgatory, deciding who's going where. The director says:

"Imagine her like Cleopatra in a big chair with either a thumbs up or thumbs down."









#### "Bold, different and deserves to be seen by everyone."

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"Ridiculously entertaining."

Empire



"A masterpiece."

Stuart McGurk - GQ

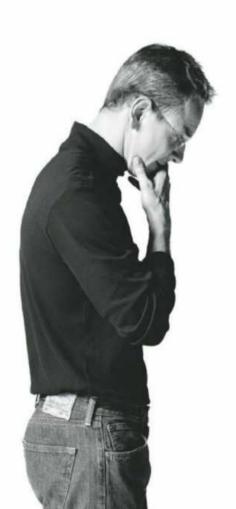
michael kate seth jeff fassbender winslet rogen daniels

### steve jobs

from director danny boyle and screenwriter aaron sorkin

in cinemas now







#### **Child brides**

certainly not going to do in this week's column is call anyone a paedo. I want to make this absolutely clear. No one is a paedo. Your secret's safe with me. I mean, Whoa! What secret? That was close.

But... (and it's a massively consenting adult butt) I've been wondering lately about the media's take on historical accounts of abuse by celebrities, and what the criteria for outing them might be. R Kelly married Aaliyah when she was just 15, but that's all fine for some reason. He had been her mentor, producer and the lead songwriter on her debut album, 'Age Ain't Nothing But A Number' which was recorded when Aaliyah was 14. The lead track helped



define R&B in the '90s and remains, to me, the anthem of grooming. There would be allegations about R Kelly's involvement with other underage girls in the years following Aaliyah's death, but he's got a new album coming out soon so, you know. Unlike his 2013 album, 'Black Panties', this one's got a single all about barbecuing! And hopefully a few more about Christmas jumpers and how kids say the darndest things.

#### **Priscilla Presley**

was in London recently promoting 'Elvis At The O2', the largest Elvis retrospective in Europe; an exhibition of his legacy through more than two million personal artefacts from Elvis' Graceland home. She spoke on Loose Women (hey listen, I had a day off) about her ex-husband as a woman who'd never fallen out of love with him. "We were very close after our divorce. We were very loving... I was with him for 15 years. Here are some bongos I bought him when I was 14. I mean, what does a 14-year-old girl get Elvis for his birthday?!" How about a f\*\*\*ing restraining order!!

Urgh. So she's counting the time before she and Elvis Presley were officially married. She was indeed 14 when the two met at a party in Germany. Soon after, Priscilla moved to America to be

"I mean, what does a 14-yearold girl get Elvis for his birthday?"

with Elvis but lived with his parents to finish high school instead while he gallivanted around Hollywood, denying affairs with his co-stars. Priscilla's dad reportedly pushed the marriage anyway, stating that Elvis should stick to his agreement.

Yes, it was a long time ago. But what – because we *like* Elvis Presley, we just sweep it under the

rug? Well I don't like Elvis Presley. And I also find something very sinister in Priscilla - the Scientologist - Presley shopping around everything he ever touched in her mobile museum. It took her less than 30 seconds on the ITV chat show to remind us to buy the new album, 'If I Can Dream', his 12th chart-topping record in the UK, released posthumously, of course, for what would have been The King's 80th birthday. Priscilla is executive producer on it. She asks Elvis' adoring public to "keep his legacy going", but just replace "his legacy" with "my tennis lessons" and you've got what I heard.

If there's a lesson here – which there is not – I guess it's to try

to be the child bride of a very successful hoarder.
No. It's, uh, not to die in a plane crash? Wait. Maybe we can have it all: great music made by people who don't marry teens.
A girl can only dream.

#### Katherine Ryan's high five

Why we're the ones who need to feel sorry for Justin Bieber

Justin's hometown, Stratford, Ontario, is garbage. He's the only person born there who doesn't mainline bath salts under a bridge.

He survived being the rich and famous teen without blowing it on hovercrafts, prostitutes, or transformer prostitute/ hovercrafts.

He got flack for stopping fans clapping along 'cos they were off-beat. I love that. It's like, "If anyone's going to ruin my performance, it's going to be me." 4 Beatlemania conditioned girls to swoon and scream at the sight of boys. Meaning he's now living in a 24/7 pussy riot, and not the good kind.

5 I've personally slagged him off for years, but when my kid met him, he was a total gentleman to her. He's just a kid himself. Who's the pr\*ck now? Justin Bieber, I'm sorry.





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Raising the Bar mars.co.uk/raisingthebar

#### AGENDA

# Josh Widdicombe's guide to being a good-ish housemate

The star of new sitcom Josh tells us how to eat, drink, wash, sleep, relax and live with other people. Sort of

#### Washing up JOSH: "As students, we

JOSH: "As students, we completely failed with the washing up. You'd constantly have to eat out of the wrong receptacle. You'd end up with a cup of cornflakes or a plate of tea. Never leave a pot standing unless it's got water in, then you've got 12 hours to clean it properly, or you're a bad person."







JOSH: "When I first went to university, I did a big shop with my dad. We bought loads of stuff but it didn't occur to me that I needed to refrigerate it, so I just put it in my room. I remember thinking, 'What's that smell coming from under the bed?' It was a bag of potatoes. How long does it take for a potato to rot? Months! Use a fridge."

#### Hygiene

JOSH: "We had a shower at uni where you had to run the cold tap in the bathroom sink to get the shower to get hot. You had to set the temperature in the sink to get to the opposite temperature in the shower, so there was always a huge queue because it took at least 20 minutes. It was basically a two-man job."

#### House parties

JOSH: "I'll never have a house party again. You stand around for ages worried that nobody's coming and the next minute you're queuing for your own toilet while someone you've never met is asking you if you know whose



JOSH: "I remember when my friend started going out with this girl who had previously been going out with someone in the flat above us. She was staying and there was a fire alarm and we all had to assemble outside. It was so tense because she was there with her ex-boyfriend and my friend she'd just started sleeping with. Never date your neighbour's ex."

#### **Washing**

JOSH: "I shrunk my favourite jeans in my first week of university. I'd never done a wash before. That's the problem with uni - you ruin your clothes and end up with mouldy potatoes under the bed. There should be a boot camp before uni where you learn to be an adult."

Josh is on Wednesday, 10.30pm, **BBC Three** 

#### A quick guide to Josh\*

\*The sitcom, not the bloke

#### IT'S CALLED JOSH

"We couldn't think of another name."

#### IT'S SET IN HIS FLAT "Write what you know."

#### JOSH SEEKS THE QUIET LIFE

"Life is a series of events that get in the way of you failing to relax."

#### **JACK DEE PLAYS HIS LANDLORD**

"He's a great actor. Why would you want to watch me when you could watch Jack?"





#### AGENDA



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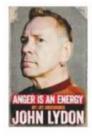
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# What's ON your Head Phones?

**Sheffield** 

"There's some great stuff on at Tramlines Festival"

Christian Carlisle > 30, radio presenter

Listening to:

#### WHILE SHE SLEEPS **Brainwashed**

"It's been more or less on repeat in our house over the course of the last month."

Wearing: Custom-made jacket, Freshmans Boutique shirt and trousers, Converse

#### Best thing about Sheffield:

"Tramlines Festival. Go to the fringe stages. There's some great stuff on the main stages, but if you want to get to the real nitty-gritty of the Sheffield music scene, hit up the fringe stages, hit up West Street Live, hit up Frog and Parrot."

Alice Winckle > 22, promotions manager

Listening to:

#### **UNKNOWN MORTAL ORCHESTRA**

Multi-Love

"They're quite soulful for a psych-rock band."

Wearing: Vintage shirt, Topshop skinny jeans, Dr Martens boots, Casio watch.

Best thing about Sheffield: "Plug nightclub. It features so many different styles of music, from grime to folk to indie. But I think Sheffield's great for music in general. Any day of the week you'll be able to find a gig on somewhere."

> **⟨ Gabrielle Mills** 19, student /DJ

Listening to:

#### **COURTNEY BARNETT** Pedestrian At Best

"I really like the satirical nature of her lyrics. There's just something about her."

Wearing: Missguided coat, vintage Cow T-shirt, Topshop cord skirt, mum's boots. Best thing about Sheffield:

"Division Street's got some really cool vintage shops."

Tom Casserly > 21, musician

Listening to: **EARTHLESS** 

#### Violence Of The Red Sea

"They're a heavy psych band from California. They just take songs to outer space."

Wearing: AllSaints jacket, Topman jeans and T-shirt. Best thing about Sheffield: "Honey Bee Blues Club. It's just outside the centre. No one's really heard of it."

For the full gallery head to NME.com



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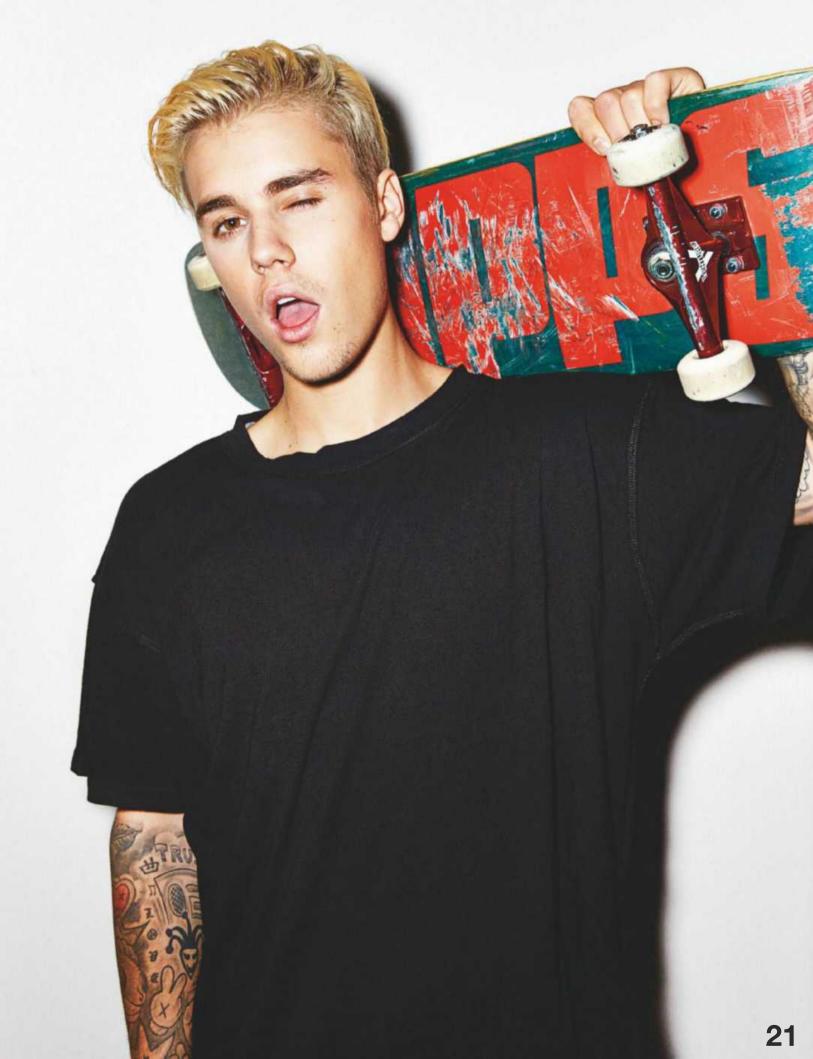
compare himself to Ghandi, but Bieber is close to shedding his brattish image. Tom Howard spends two hours with a pop star on the cusp of redemption

PHOTOGRAPHY: DEAN CHALKLEY

ere is an enjoyable selection of things Justin Bieber got up to between September 2012 and December 2014. He vomited onstage in Arizona; abandoned his pet monkey at German customs; went to dinner at Mr Chow in London wearing a gas mask; wrote "hopefully she would have been a Belieber" in the guestbook of the Anne Frank Museum in Amsterdam; was caught sneaking out of a Brazilian brothel; had a

scuffle with Orlando Bloom in Ibiza; was arrested for assault and dangerous driving in Ontario, Canada; posted on Twitter that he had "officially retired".

The 21-year old was, for a while, the biggest freak show around. Today, as he walks into the suite of a five-star hotel in London, introducing himself with a handshake, a smile and a "hey man", he's here to tell *NME* why un-Beliebers have got him all wrong.



#### JUSTIN BIEBER

t's a week before 'Sorry' - the second single from Justin Bieber's fourth album, 'Purpose' - is due to come out. Bieber recently posted the words "if you don't like 'Sorry' I will punch myself in the face repeatedly" on Instagram, Sounds like he's feeling pretty confident. "Yeah, I don't know, I just really love the song," he says, of the Skrillex and Blood Diamond-produced track, "It's a simple melody, but I think music right now is missing those effective real songs."

For someone who's sold almost 50 million records, has the second-mostwatched video on YouTube ever ('Baby', with over 1.2 billion views) and pulled in \$77million on his 2013 tour, Bieber is curiously unsure of himself when talking about music. But his mind's been elsewhere since he last released an album, 2012's 'Believe'.

A few days ago, he completed the 40 hours of community service he was sentenced to in July 2014 for causing (allegedly) \$80,000 of damage by throwing eggs at his Californian neighbours' house. "I think I'm the first person with a felony egg charge," he says, smiling, seeming to enjoy how silly it sounds. "Right now I'm on probation from an egg charge."

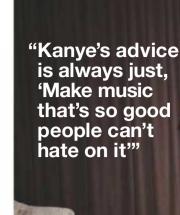
On community service he had to "paint walls, clean up and move boxes" in a community centre in South Central LA, "the ghetto". As he talks, he cannot stop moving. His feet are on the table, then off. He takes his shirt off, puts it back on, takes it off again. He's sitting up, lying back, yawning, staring straight at me with giant brown eyes, looking sort of shellshocked and talking slowly.

"I built a plastic playground for these little kids," he says. "I was pretty hidden away. Usually you have to do it in the street but they didn't make me. I was painting, listening to music and having the best time. There were families there, and I got to meet a lot of people who were happy to see me. That felt good. Like I wasn't just doing it because I did something stupid.'

His new album, reckons Bieber's manager Scooter Braun, is the moment he moves from "teen phenomenon to actual phenomenon with real credibility and huge

hits. You saw it with Michael Jackson, you saw it with Usher, you saw it with Justin Timberlake. You start young, but you transition when you make great records."

The redemption isn't being attempted



alone. On 'Purpose', alongside Skrillex and Blood Diamond, you will find Ed Sheeran (co-wrote 'Love Yourself'), the soon-to-behuge Halsey (sings on 'The Feeling') plus rappers Nas on 'We Are', Travis Scott on 'No Sense' and Big Sean on 'No Pressure'.

In a looser capacity there's legendary producer Rick Rubin, whose work includes the Beastie Boys' 'Licensed To III', Slayer's 'Reign In Blood', Kanye West's 'Yeezus' and 'X' by Ed Sheeran. Bieber says Rubin is "not really the producer, but kinda like one. He brought in a band and there were some dope vibes, but it wasn't the music I wanna make. So I said, 'I love you, but no thanks."

And then there is Kanye West, who has recovered from being seen as Public A\*\*\*hole Number One, and is "one hundred per cent" someone Bieber can talk to. "Out of anyone in the industry who is creative, he really gets me. His advice is always just, 'Make music that's so good people can't hate on it.' I didn't wanna bore him or waste his time. So I was like, 'Can I play you these songs?' and he was like, 'I wanna hear everything.' To hear him say that, it just showed that he cared."

Justin Bieber was plucked from obscurity as a 13-year-old by his current manager Scooter Braun in 2007. He became, he says, "a kid in this industry with millions of dollars, where people come into your life and wanna gain from you, and I was naïve". He adds: "People take from you, lie to you and steal your trust."

Six years later he started "rebelling against everybody and everything, and being a normal 19-year-old". But he was, he thinks, held to a "different standard" than other 19-year-olds. "It's because of the way the 'Justin Bieber brand' was portrayed. I was a wholesome pop star who was so amazing who had nice hair and a f\*\*\*ing image that no one could ever live up to. So when all this happened people were like, 'Woah, let's rip him apart.' If you see Ghandi roll up a blunt, it's different to seeing Ryan Gosling roll up a blunt. You wouldn't give Ryan Gosling a hard time."

As Bieber gets more introspective his tone changes.



For his Comedy Central Roast, Justin **Bieber was ribbed by** fellow celebrities.

"The Brazilian prostitute that claimed she was with Justin said he was wellendowed. And so was the prostitute." Ludacris rapper

"You are a guy who has it all - except for respect, love, friends, good parents and a Grammy." Chris D'Elia comedian

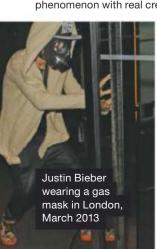
"You were ranked the fifth most-hated person last year. Kim Jong-un didn't score that low, and he uses your music to torture people." Shaquille O'Neal basketball superstar

"You roast the ones you love, but I don't like you at all. I'm here because it's a good opportunity for me." **Hannibal Buress** comedian









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#### **JUSTIN BIEBER**

"I never wanted to portray myself a certain way," he says. "I just want people to know I'm human. I'm struggling just to get through the days. I think a lot of people are. Like, today is hard, man. We've got a lot of stuff to get through, and although there's a lot I'm looking forward to and it's awesome, it's a struggle."

In what way?

"You get lonely, you know, when you're on the road. People see the glam and the amazing stuff, but they don't know the other side. This life can rip you apart. I watched the Amy Winehouse documentary on the plane and I had tears in my eyes because I could see what the media was doing to her, how they were treating her. She was on drugs and they were just making fun of that. People thought it was funny to poke her when she was at rock bottom, to keep pushing her down until she had no more of herself. And that's what they were trying to do to me. No one knew what I was feeling. I was rebelling against something deeper, and it took me a minute to realise I'm not gonna let them win."

Did the Amy Winehouse documentary freak you out?

"It didn't freak me out, but it made me sad. When I started out I just wanted to sing and make music. I was young, didn't read celebrity blogs or see what the f\*\*k was going on, but then I got famous and people started recognising me. I was like, 'Dude, I didn't sign up for this.' And Amy in the movie talks about how she didn't want to be famous, she just wanted to make music. It's like, 'Can you guys just leave me alone, I just wanna make the music. Please leave me alone.'"

How do you handle that?

"I let that sh\*t affect me so bad. I used to not go places because I knew they'd follow me. But now I'm like, 'You know what, I'm gonna have to deal with this probably for the rest of my life, so either I stay strong, or I let this affect me.' I could think, 'My life sucks, I have no privacy and every time I see the paparazzi I get mad.' But that's just gonna make me depressed."

Do you get depressed?

"All the time. And I feel isolated.
You're in your hotel room and there are fans all around, paparazzi following you everywhere, and it gets intense. When you can't go anywhere or do anything alone you get depressed. There's a famous Jim Carrey quote, 'If everyone was famous

#### "I just want people to know I'm human. I'm struggling"

then nobody would wanna be famous.' [Carrey actually said: 'I hope everybody could get rich and famous and will have everything they ever dreamed of, so they will know that it's not the answer.'] And it's true. I wouldn't wish this upon anyone."

Whenever Bieber starts feeling too sorry for himself, he puts a positive spin on it – the sort of trick a therapist might teach someone recovering from a trauma. At one point he says he has to accept his life is "a trade-off", and that "if I wanna do this, there's gonna be darkness thrown at me".

The public perception of Justin Bieber started to change at the beginning of 2015. First, in January, he apologised on *The Ellen Degeneres Show* for all the stupid things he'd done. Then in March he received two hours of ribbing by some of America's most famous comedians on a *Comedy Central Roast*. Will Ferrell, in character as Ron Burgundy from *Anchorman*, cut deep: "People refer to Mr Bieber as a kid or a boy. Well here's a newsflash, gang: He's a man. A full-grown man, who sings songs for nine-year-olds and cuts his hair like a gay figure skater."

By June one of the most remarkable recoveries in musical history was underway as Bieber became – for the first time ever – both trendy and credible after appearing on the Jack Ü track 'Where Are Ü Now' with Diplo and Skrillex. Now – after the subtle electro-pop of 'What Do You Mean?' – the rebirth of Bieber is almost complete.

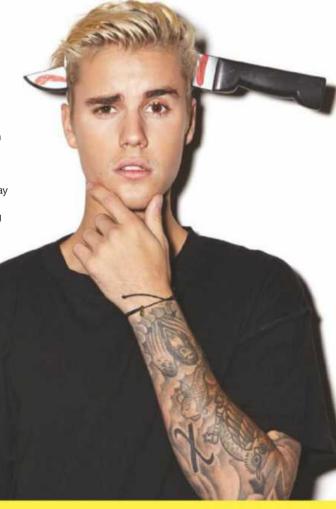
He still might have a way to go to shake off his bratty image, however. Today, NME's photographer has made a playlist. He tells Bieber he can turn it off if it starts getting on his nerves.

"Well f\*\*k,"

Bieber drawls. "It already is!" He walks over to the iPod and puts on his own album instead.

But he's not a total diva. When asked to do skateboard tricks off a variety of hotel furniture he just grabs his deck and does it. The same goes for his willingness to wrap a plastic joke shop knife around his head.

Outside the hotel is a modest gaggle of Beliebers. When asked what one thing they want to know about Justin, the response is unanimous: "Is he OK?" It's hard to know what to say. He's a charming dude, seems sad, happy and confused, all at the same time. Since this interview he's appeared on TFI Friday and Radio 1 with no drama, but also cut a Spanish radio interview short and cancelled a gig in Oslo after one song, so who the hell knows? Maybe it's best not to overthink it. Maybe he nailed it when, earlier, he simply said: "I'm alive, and that's all that matters."



#### Crap celeb crimes

Bieber got done for chucking eggs. He's not the only star caught doing something dumb.



#### **WOODY HARRELSON**

The crime: Dancing in the street, then resisting arrest in October, 1982.

The time: \$390 fine. The 21-year-old star of *Cheers* remained free to dance another day.

#### **WINONA RYDER**

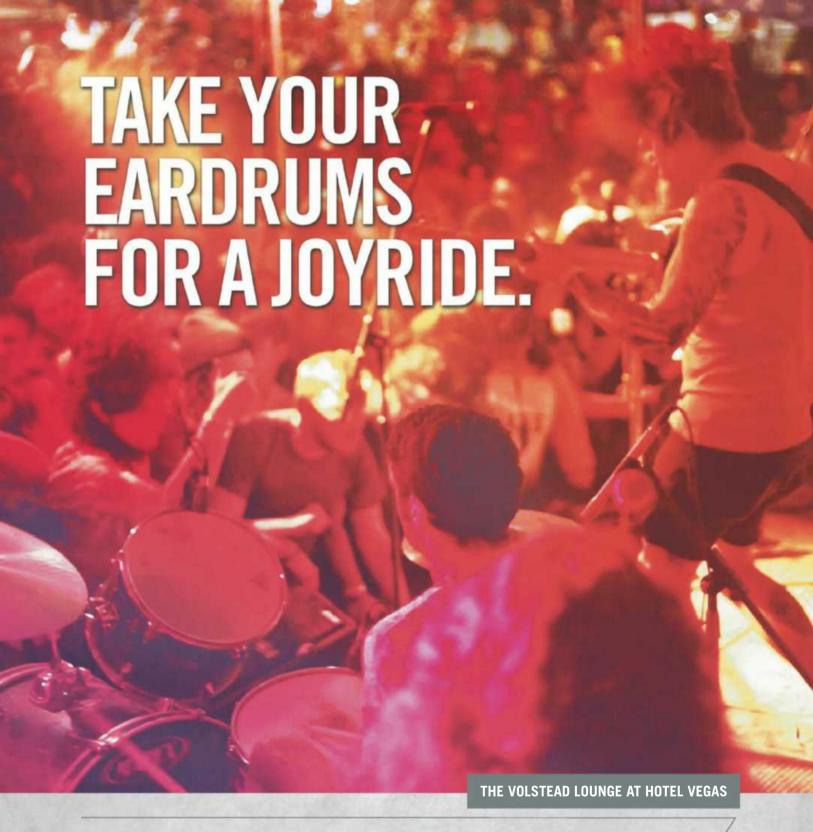
The crime: Shoplifting £3,800 worth of designer goods in December, 2001. The time: Three years' probation and 480 hours of community service for the

star of Girl, Interrupted.

#### **WIZ KHALIFA**

The crime: Riding a hover-board in LAX airport in August 2015.

The time: The rapper was held to the ground by police shouting "stop resisting". He was later released.





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Discover America



As another Steve Jobs biopic hits cinemas, Kate Solomon highlights the inventions that shaped – and continue to shape – the modern age

ILLUSTRATIONS: GEORGE YARNTON



Let's face it, the NME you're reading right now wouldn't exist if it weren't for a bunch of big band players realising, "We'd better get some amps hooked up to these guitars, the horns are drowning us out." Without the invention of the electric guitar, 'Ace Of Spades' would be an acoustic ballad and Noel Gallagher would be a branch manager at Foot Locker. Responsible for: Rock'n'roll as we know it, face-melting solos, feedback, tinnitus.

1934

#### TELEVISION

Magnet for the famehungry and *Friends* repeats

The invention of the cathode ray tube allowed for watchable moving images on compact television sets. Soon, our living rooms would be completely rearranged around a flickering box in the corner and we'd never have to make stultifying small talk with our families ever again. **Responsible for:** Making home life bearable, killing the

radio star, Game Of Thrones.

1954

#### TRANSISTOR RADIO

Platform for new tunes and rocktastic DJ banter

The technology behind the transistor radio was originally developed to improve radio-controlled bombs during World War II, but when applied to pocket-sized portable radios, it allowed the burgeoning teen demographic to hear the latest rock'n'roll sides independently of parents or squares. More than seven billion of the things have since been manufactured. Responsible for: Pop music, Walkmans, Zane Lowe.

#### 1977

#### Kickstarted the home computing revolution

The invention of the microchip in 1958, followed by the microprocessor a decade later, meant that computers were no longer room-sized novelties. Microsoft's Windows software made them useful and the iMac made them desirable. Before long they were ruling our lives. When was the last time you used a pen?

Responsible for: Email, the internet, World Of Warcraft, spreadsheets, dangerously sedentary working lives.

#### 1979 SONY WALKMAN

#### Played the soundtracks of our lives

The cassette tape finally fulfilled its potential when Sony released its iconic Walkman. Created so Sony's co-founder Masaru Ibuka could listen to opera on plane journeys, it completely changed the way we consume music.

**Responsible for:** Mixtapes, iPod, making bus journeys bearable.

#### 1983

#### CAMCORDER Made movie star

Made movie stars of us all

JVC's first VHS-based camcorder rocked Hollywood by allowing anyone to make a movie. Despite this, most people merely used their camcorders to film relatives falling into swimming pools in the hope of earning £250 from TV blooper shows. Responsible for: The Blair Witch Project, You've Been Framed, YouTube.







(SCRIPT-05)

Act. 2 - Scene. 4

'THE SILVER SMILE'

It's the work's Christmas party. The music's terrible, the wine is warm and Nigel from accounts is holding a sprig of plastic mistletoe. Could things get any worse?

Oh yes.

It's Secret Santa time, and that present could be from anyone. Even your boss. #awks.

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(excited)
So try using 'THE SILVER SMILE' technique.

Simply imagine unwrapping the present you've been longing for. The Google Chromecast: Picture all the gloricus entertainment you could stream with that.

(pause)
Go on, now smile your way to success.

SPARE THE ACT THIS CHRISTMAS





1A 31-097

32-675

34-879

35-144

37-358

9A 38-225

5A

6A 36-086

#### TECH THAT CHANGED THE WORLD

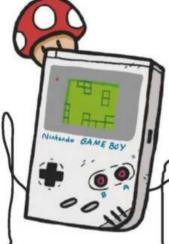
#### 1984

#### **MOBILE PHONE**

"Sorry, I just need to take this..."

In 1984, Motorola's first commercially viable mobile handset - the DynaTAC went on sale. It took 10 hours to charge up and you could talk for a whole 30 minutes before it died again. Not that different to the iPhone 5, then. In the 1980s, anyone trying to use these brick-like mobiles in public was roundly derided for being a yuppie. But the idea of being able to look more important than the people you were with soon proved irresistible...

Responsible for: Ruining films, sexting, the sad death of the classic red phonebox.



#### 1989

#### **GAME BOY**

Pioneer of handheld gaming devices

Thanks to the first portable console with swappable game cartridges, a whole generation still dream of leaping Marios or tumbling Tetris blocks. The idea of carrying a multi-functional computer around in your pocket was minted.

Responsible for: Pokémon, Angry Birds, smartphones.

#### 1990

#### THE WORLD WIDE WEB

Democratic source of information. And porn

Although the internet already existed in primitive form, it wasn't until Sir Tim Berners-Lee (bless 'im) created the first web browser in 1990 that it became properly navigable. The World Wide Web changed our lives entirely and irrevocably. Information became freely and readily available, and it has never been easier or more socially acceptable to start arguments with strangers. Responsible for: Google, Facebook, eBay, Amazon, Skype, irate people on message boards, the ability to research this article without visiting a library.

#### And tech that will change the world



#### **DRONES**

Flying cars would be a logistical nightmare, but a sky full of unmanned drones zipping around delivering Amazon parcels and Dominos pizzas, apprehending criminals or spying on people is not so inconceivable.



#### VIRTUAL REALITY

With the invention of the Oculus Rift headset, virtual reality is the next big thing in gaming, movies and virtual second lives.



#### DRIVERLESS CARS

NEVER GUNNA

GIVE!

Google has been testing its self-driving cars on roads in California for a few years now, but don't expect to see one hurtling down your high street any time soon. Both laws and roads will have to change before then.



#### GRAPHENE

Graphene is a man-made material that is 207 times stronger than steel, conducts electricity so well that charging a phone with a graphene battery will take seconds, and so flexible that future phones could be rolled up and stuck behind your ear.

#### 2001

Your entire music collection in your pocket

There were MP3 players before, but the iPod just looked cooler - plus its easyto-use companion software, iTunes, finally provided a viable, legal alternative to piracy. The ability to rip or buy single songs and play them on shuffle almost killed the album, gave radio a serious run for its money and laid the foundation for music-streaming services like Spotify and Apple Music. Responsible for: Generation shuffle, tinny white headphones, iPhone.



**SOCIAL NETWORKING** 

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meeting them

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There was once a time when

you weren't connected to



NEVER

GUNN A

GIVE

#### YOUTUBE

The world's biggest (and weirdest) TV channel

It doesn't seem possible that YouTube is only 10 years old. Where did we go to see a baby panda sneeze, hear Ringo Starr plead with us to stop sending fanmail or make millions of pounds from our bedrooms before YouTube? We just couldn't. What kind of life even was that?

#### Responsible for:

Democratising TV, reviving the pop video, Justin Bieber, Zoella, NME Rickrolling.

1997

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# FETTYWAP The hottest

# rapper

One-eyed, bleach-dreadlocked phenomenon Fetty Wap has come from nowhere to have the biggest rap anthem of 2015. Al Horner dissects the success of hip-hop's newest megastar

of 2015

less
– an
love
cool
with
and
of m
toge
just

less orthodox
– an offbeat
love story about
cooking crack
with his girlfriend
and dreaming
of making it big
together ("We
just set a goal,
talkin' matchin'

Lambos"). Fetty never doubted its potential. "I knew it'd transform my life," he says.

#### His backstory is inspiring

Fetty lost his left eye to glaucoma at an early age and spent a difficult childhood in Paterson, New Jersey, scrapping with school bullies.
"I didn't want to be a role model," he insists, but he has become one: in October, a story broke about a 10-year-old boy who lost an eye due to retinoblastoma. "He was terrified of taking [his prosthetic] out," said his mother, "and then Fetty Wap appears." The boy was pictured proudly going to school without his prosthetic for the first time. Fetty gave him "the confidence to be different".



#### He's an oldfashioned word-of-mouth phenomenon

Trap Queen' was originally released in April 2014 on a tiny label from Fetty's hometown. It was re-released with full distribution in December 2014, but took another five months to peak at Number Two on America's Billboard charts, racking up 275m Spotify plays and 285m YouTube views - with minimal label backing. By August, he had three singles in the Billboard Top 11. And when Taylor Swift duetted with him in front of 60,000 fans in Seattle that month, the place erupted in a way it didn't for her tour's more famous cameos. Gutted, Mick Jagger.

#### He steers clear of hip-hop clichés

Fetty has experienced the full colour of street life in Paterson, if tales of drug dealing in songs like 'Trap Luv' ("Wake up in the morning, all I think is flip/ Count a couple hundreds,

morning, all I think is flip/ Count a couple hundreds, flip a couple bricks") and '679' ("I got a Glock in my 'Rari") are to be taken at face value. But that hustler lifestyle is the backdrop to his songs, rather than the focus. Instead his

album swerves gangsta clichés for real-life, romantic hood dramas and everyday stories. "I'm a regular person," explains Fetty. "When I'm not working I spend time with my kids. I picked up a shopping habit too recently."

#### He does it all on his own terms

Ask Fetty to describe his sound and he'll give you a simple answer: "I just call it 'Fetty Wap'. I stay in my lane, I'm not trying to be anyone else." Even after signing a big money major-label deal, he continued to shoot his videos on location in Paterson and limited the personnel of his debut album to simply "me and my homies".



Fetty in hospital after breaking his leg on his motorbike,
September 2015

away that 'Trap Queen'

was special"

August 2015

### His motorcycle accident trended on Twitter

In late September, Fetty was involved in a head-on collision with another vehicle while riding a motorbike in Paterson. Photos of the rapper surrounded by paramedics sparked concern, leading to the hashtag #prayforfetty trending on Twitter. Having broken his leg in three places, he's now back on stage, rapping from a giant gold throne, Dave Grohl-style.

#### He's only just getting started...

Fetty's rumoured to be teaming up with Drake for a second time.
Collaborations with "Rihanna and Beyoncé would be dope", he says, but he's not getting too far ahead of himself. "You guys just gotta stay tuned."

#### Rappers on the rise

Fetty Wap's peers in hip-hop's class of 2015



#### RAE SREMMURD

Tupelo duo whose trap beats and hooks (see January's 'Sremmlife' LP) have made their second album, due next month, hotly anticipated. **Key track:** 'No Type'



#### DEJ LOAF

Opened for Nicki Minaj in early 2015 and hasn't looked back, winning acclaim for her sharp flow and dreamy spin on Detroit rap.

Key track: 'Try Me'

#### VINCE STAPLES Followed last year's

Followed last year's
'Hell Can Wait' with the
ambitious 'Summertime
'06' – a 20-track
missive from the
brink of adulthood. **Key track:** 'Norf Norf'

#### YOUNG THUG

The Atlanta MC has challenged hip-hop stereotypes by wearing women's clothes and rapping about relationships with men. **Key track:** 'Halftime'





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MUSIC, FILM, TV, GAMES AND MORE – THIS WEEK'S ESSENTIAL NEW RELEASES

# Best NEW tracks And when to drop them

#### **Best for** narcotic easy listenina

**WEEZER** Do You Wanna Get High?

Rivers Cuomo shares his favourite things to do after some pilldropping - namely "listening to Bacharach" - in this chugging new one-off single.

#### **Best for** turning over a new leaf

**COLDPLAY** Adventure Of A Lifetime

Judging by this grooveladen disco number, Coldplay's upcoming album will mark yet another reinvention. This is bright, sparky and primed for charthumping.

#### **Best for** the single life blues

SAM SMITH **Drowning Shadows** 

Sam's back on his usual heart-wrenching vibe after his Bond theme. "Do I go home to nothing or stay out for more?" he asks over yearning piano. Stay out for more, obviously, Sam. Duh.



#### **Best for** begging your ex for sex

BANKS Better

Californian singer Banks returns after last year's 'Goddess' LP as elegantly emotional as ever, pleading "I can love you better than she," over sparse beats.

#### **Best for post**kickboxing chill-outs

LITTLE SIMZ Don't Forget

London rapper Simbi Ajikawo follows her acclaimed debut album with this fast-flowing track, full of fighting talk. A spectral, veiled threat of a song.

#### **Best for** 'twitching'

Bird Set Free

"Clipped wings, I was a broken thing," croaks Sia, before breaking out of her shackles and soaring into a skyscraping chorus.

#### **Best for being** the 'best vou'

SANTIGOLD Can't Get Enough Of Myself

"All I wanna do is what I do well," trills Santigold over a carnival of sounds, from sunny synths to hipswaying bass.

#### **Best for** intergalactic raving

RUSTIE

Peace Upzzz

This track, from Glaswegian producer Rustie's latest album, is what you imagine time travel sounds like - a voyage through alien sound effects and glistening noise.

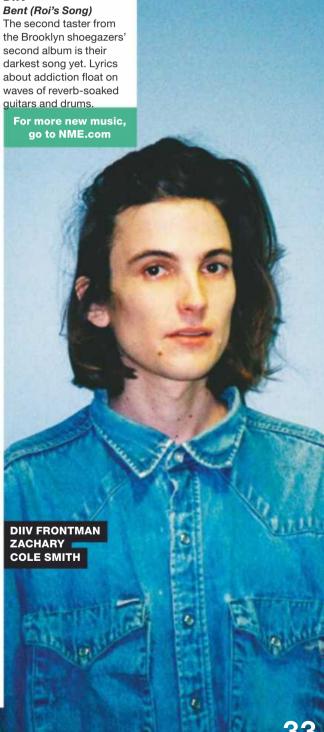


#### **Best for** online stalking

**SUNFLOWER BEAN** Wall Watcher

New York's coolest new band up the stakes with this dreamy psych cut, all alluring coos and deep, thrumming riffs.

#### **Best for** saying no to drugs





Claire Boucher twists chart pop to her will on a fourth album that shows she's one of a kind

she sings in a broadside against the fans who accused her of

pandering to last year's 'Go chorus hook

THUS FAR. THE STORY OF Claire Boucher's long-awaited fourth Grimes album has been that of an artist determined to assert control over her own narrative. The album's worth of material scrapped in 2014 wasn't necessarily a 'scrapped album' per se, so much as a bunch of "depressing" tracks no longer representative of where she was at. Likewise, while her startling new single 'Flesh Without Blood' isn't a break-up song, it does concern a parting of ways of another sort: "It's nice that you say you like me, but only conditionally",

she sings in a broadside against the fans who accused her of pandering to the mainstream with last year's 'Go'. The rapturous prechorus hook of "Now I don't care

> any more" makes the 27-year-old's feelings on the matter clear.

It would be reductive to call this record Boucher's





CARLY RAE
JEPSEN
'Emotion' (2015)
The Canadian's third
album established

her as the connoisseur's pop singer of choice.

between her fervent online cult and tangible, real-world success. On the Rihanna-sampling pop-country 'California' or the frenetic, quitar-heavy 'Kill V Maim', that transition seems both effortless and inevitable. Elsewhere, it merely seems perplexing - why trade outsiderartistry for the serviceable likes of 'Artangels' or 'Easily'? Yet enough idiosyncrasies remain to ensure you won't mistake 'Art Angel' for the work of anybody else. The macabre horrorcore of 'Scream' - featuring Taiwanese rapper Aristophanes, who Boucher

discovered on SoundCloud – shows that even as her sound broadens, Grimes' determinedly weird ethos remains intact.

You might argue that, by embracing the pop orthodoxy, Claire Boucher has sacrificed some of what has always made her seem so alien, but rest assured: she's still laughing and not being normal, only this time, it's all the way to the bank. Barry Nicolson

#### Also out th<u>is week</u>





BOOTS
Aquaria
★★★☆
American producer

Jordan Asher has made beats for Beyoncé, Run The Jewels and FKA Twigs. This solo debut boasts an intergalactic range of future-pop sounds.



BRIAN JONESTOWN MASSACRE Mini Album

Thingy Wingy

\*\*\*\*

The psych rockers return with a joyous 15th album that takes in globe-trotting influences and playful 1960s references.



PANDA BEAR
Crosswords EP

★★★★
After starting the

year with the murkily brilliant 'Panda Bear Meets The Grim Reaper', Animal Collective man Noah Lennox is ending it on a similarly high note. Five tracks to make your head spin.



YAK No EP ★★★☆

Yak have pulled in a couple of indie heroes for this second EP. Produced by Pulp's Steve Mackey and released on Jack White's Third Man Records, 'No' is loud, bluesy and dangerous.



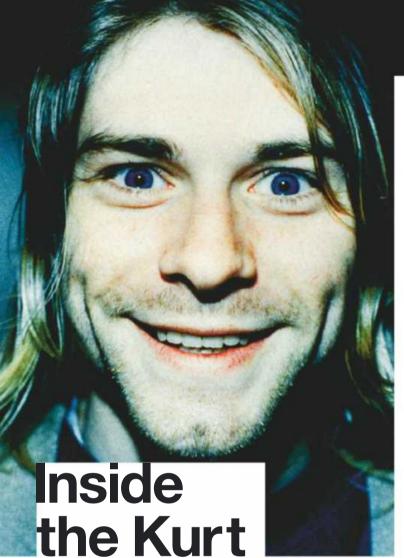
KING GIZZARD & THE LIZARD WIZARD Paper Mâché

Dream Balloon

\*\*\*\*

The Australian septet's second album this year. Breakneck psych has been replaced by meandering flute-filled ballads.

Read the full reviews of these and many more albums on nme.com



locker

The 31 tracks on the soundtrack to this year's Kurt Cobain documentary offer a glimpse

offer a glimpse of a genius at work

MONTAGE
OF HECK:
THE HOME
RECORDINGS

SOUNDTRACK DEMOS GENIUS

GENIUS IS A MESSY, mystifying, wholly subjective thing. Were you to play 'Montage Of Heck: The Home Recordings' to someone who had no idea who Nirvana frontman Kurt Cobain was, you'd struggle to convince

> them it represented the unfiltered work of a songwriting savant. Yet precisely because you know who's messing around with the effects pedal on the instrumental 'Reverb Experiment', or doing the caterwauling on

'The Yodel Song', the temptation is to look for method and meaning where it doesn't always exist.

That's often the trouble with genius: it's as impossible for the vessel to quantify or understand as it is for everyone else.

Take the acoustic demo of 'Frances Farmer Will Have Her Revenge On Seattle' (from 1993's 'In Utero') that's included here. The song's basic structure was evidently in place when Cobain sat down to record it, but the chorus is still just a vaque, mumbled vocalisation to be fleshed out later until the moment when - seemingly out of nowhere he blurts the line. "I miss the comfort in being sad", and the whole thing suddenly snaps into focus. Something similar happens during the bad-tempered, neverto-be-heard-from-again 'Burn My Britches', when he clumsily seques into the hymnal refrain of 'Nevermind' track 'Something In The Way' and you can almost hear the light bulb buzzing above his head. It's those sudden, inexplicable breakthroughs, those little lightning strikes of inspiration, that this compilation is ultimately concerned with. And it's in those moments when these crappily recorded fumblings become a source of real fascination.

Much like director Brett Morgen's documentary, 'Montage Of Heck: The Home Recordings' makes a voyeur of its listener; nothing here was intended for release, and to use a phrase Cobain would've probably loathed, that's its unique selling point. More unsettling still is the thought that these recordings technically constitute Cobain's first solo album, yet it's hard to sit through his morbidly beautiful cover of The Beatles' 'And I Love Her', or the larval versions of 'Been a Son' and 'Sappy', and regret having done so. Maybe it's not What Kurt Would Have Wanted, but for the rest of us, 'Montage Of Heck: The Home Recordings' is a valuable glimpse into an unknowable process.

**Barry Nicolson** 





An interview with album curator Brett Morgen

#### How did you begin piecing the album together?

"There was a decision early on to only feature Kurt – no band rehearsals. The narrative gets darker – it begins with a lot of levity and humour, but the turning point comes with 'Aberdeen', the spoken-word story [about Kurt sleeping with a special needs girl, and the shame that drove him to attempt suicide afterwards]. It introduces some of the issues Kurt struggled with.

What about the morality of releasing these songs? "Let me put people at ease. Selling 'Smells Like Teen Spirit' to a commercial is about making money, whereas putting this out... while I'm sure the family will profit, it's not a big commercial album. This is an archival, historical album created to further our appreciation of Kurt's artistic pursuits." Barry Nicolson





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**STEVE JOBS** 

15 Michael Fassbender, Jeff Daniels, Seth Rogen, Kate Winslet



MAKING A FILM ABOUT STEVE Jobs is a tricky business. He and Apple co-founder Steve Wozniak are hailed as pioneers of the personal computer revolution, and the myth of Jobs as the infallible godfather of modern technology has only grown since he died from pancreatic cancer in 2011, aged 56.



The disappointing Jobs, starring Ashton Kutcher, was accused of historical inaccuracy back in 2013, and though this superior film from Danny Boyle has suffered similar criticism, it arrives on a much surer footing.

Screenwriter Aaron Sorkin (The West Wing, The Social Network) has admitted he hasn't strictly followed the facts, describing his script as "a painting, not a photograph". But Wozniak, who served as a consultant, has endorsed the film: "I felt like I was actually watching Steve Jobs."

Once you accept that Boyle's film isn't intended to be a definitive biopic, it succeeds as slick, smart, high-class entertainment. Sorkin structures it as a three-act character study set behind the scenes at Jobs-led computer launches in 1984 (the Apple Macintosh), 1988 (NeXT) and 1998 (iMac). Each act unfolds n the hours before a stressed-

Fassbender with Seth Rogen as Steve Wozniak

### FOR FANS OF



out, magnetic Jobs (Michael Fassbender) presents a potentially game-changing product to the world. The Shame star is terrific, capturing Jobs' charisma and occasional cruelty without making him unsympathetic.

But Boyle and Sorkin don't allow his performance to overshadow their film. Fassbender's Jobs is fascinating because we see how he interacts, often messily, with his closest colleagues. Though he claims loyalty to Wozniak (Seth Rogen), he's prepared to shame him publicly, and he's even meaner to former Apple CEO John Sculley (Jeff Daniels). Marketing executive Joanna Hoffman (Kate Winslet) is portrayed as the one co-worker who could really influence Jobs, and when she calls him out for

mistreating his daughter Lisa, it provides the film's most emotionally powerful moment.

Boyle's film is by no means perfect - it feels strange that Jobs' wife Laurene doesn't feature, especially as his relationship with Lisa assumes greater significance in each successive act. But whether you buy into the Steve Jobs myth or not, this is a riveting insight into a man whose inventions changed

the world. Nick Levine





Old tech alert! The three products Jobs launches in the film

#### **APPLE MACINTOSH** LAUNCHED: PRICE (in today's money): £5.282



Launched with a flashy Ridley Scott TV ad, this high and caused infighting members, leading to Jobs' resignation in 1985.

#### **NEXT COMPUTER**



LAUNCHED: October 1988 PRICE (in of tech was

nicknamed the cube and sold mainly to schools and universities. Jobs sold its software to Apple in a 1997 deal that returned

### **IMAC** LAUNCHED: Mav 1998



desktop computing's "gold standard", this game-changing model is still going strong today, and has been updated several times.





### ...And the film shot on one

There's a touching message behind the revenge in this film, with a budget so low it was made on iPhones

#### **TANGERINE**

15 Kitana Kiki Rodriguez, Mya Taylor



THE WORDS "SHOT ON iPhone 5s" are enough to make your wallet crawl back into your pocket. If we're going to pay the price of a cinema ticket can we not at least expect some modest production values? But even though Tangerine was filmed on three iPhones and looks like it cost 19p, there's something about the rough aesthetic that helps its tale.

While there's not an abundance of plot, there is a ton of atmosphere. Two transgender sex workers, Sin-Dee (Kitana Kiki Rodriguez) and Alexandra (Mya Taylor), are sitting in a Los Angeles fast-food joint

after Sin-Dee has been released from prison. When Alexandra mentions that Sin-Dee's boyfriend has cheated on her, Sin-Dee goes stalking around town looking for the woman and the man that gone done her wrong. That's about it.

This isn't polished filmmaking. The scenes with random people travelling in a cab have the stilted feel of amateur improvisation.

New York filmmaker Sean Baker's project sinks into the lives of the people who inhabit this part of LA. It's not judgmental, it's just interesting. Sin-Dee and Alexandra's chase becomes a portrait of a community: a violent community where "bitch" tends to be used as punctuation to express any given emotion and problems are resolved by screaming in public, but a community all the same. By the time the search ends and our two anti-heroines are sitting in a launderette sharing a wig, it's actually touching. **Olly Richards** 

#### Appy days

Two other films shot on the device you mainly use for Tinder



#### NIGHT FISHING (2011)

Director Park Chan-Wook (Oldboy) used an iPhone 4 to make this 33-minute movie about a man whose relaxing fishing trip turns horrific.



#### AND UNEASY LIES THE MIND (2014)

US filmmaker Ricky Fosheim uses the slightly janky images to enhance the surreal story of a man losing his mind.

#### Also out this week



#### THE FEAR OF 13 15 Nick Yarris

\*\*\*\*

Nick Yarris has been on death row for more than 20 years and has decided to cease attempts to appeal his conviction. This doc deals with how it feels knowing your time and method of death has been decided.



#### 15 Joseph Mawle, Bojana Novakovic

\*\*\*\*

Just in time to miss Halloween comes a horror about a couple who move to a remote house and find that something horrible is lurking out among the trees. Won't people ever learn?

**Full reviews of these** and many more films are on NME.com



Attack to the future

The explosive 12th edition of the shoot 'em up series powers into 2054 - with added aliens

**CALL OF DUTY: BLACK OPS III** PlayStation 4, PlayStation 3, Xbox One. Xbox 360. Microsoft Windows \* \* \*

SHOOTING ROBOTS ZOMBIE

IN THE CALL OF DUTY universe, sh\*t is getting unreal, fast. Right from its debut in 2003, this was a first-person shooter series renowned for its authentic World War 2 battle scenes. To play 2005's COD 2 was to machine-gun vour way through Saving Private

Rvan. As the franchise moved on to present-day Russia and the Middle East with 2007's COD 4: Modern Warfare and its sequels it became more Bond - snowmobile chases, global annihilation plotlines, it's a miracle we weren't teamed up with an operative called Ida Loveashagme - but maintained its touchstone of vivid realism.

Come 2012's Black Ops II, however, we were delving deep into futuristic run-and-gun territory. This follow-up opens in the ruins of a decimated Singapore in 2054, and we're so far away with the sci-fi fairies that it might as well have a Muse mode. Playing a robotically enhanced super-soldier hunting down a roque Black Ops that's threatening to expose every undercover CIA project in the world (so no international drug smuggling and training extremist despot armies for a bit, then), we can now make enemy robots explode

and unleash a swarm of deadly flying mechanical insects like an evil beekeeper. And if that's not outlandish enough, try the tackedon Zombie mode (below, left), in which you can play a crooked cop, a boxer, a debt-riddled magician or a murderous showgirl voiced by Heather Graham, fighting the undead in a '40s noir movie atmosphere and occasionally turning into an electrified alien octopus. No, really.

In the main campaign, besides the game's own mini-internet you can access from your home base and advanced weapon customisation, exploring BOIII's world offers little. According to firstperson shooter law, you just tool up and endlessly career through beautifully desolate scenery looking out for the next swarm of tiny man-shaped dots to snipe or gigantic warbots to unleash hell on, getting unexpected flashbacks to Halo 5: Guardians. Still, since this is a world constantly on the verge of explosion, the rabid gun-nut will get plenty of brainless bang for their buck. Mark Beaumont

> For more games reviews and previews go to NME.com

### Of Duty players

These guys are huge fans



#### **ANDY MURRAY** The world's second-best tennis player

was reportedly so obsessed with COD: Modern Warfare 2 that it caused arguments with then-girlfriend Kim Sears. They must have got over it though – they're married now.



#### **SNOOP DOGG** Snoop once

called COD "the coolest game in

the hood" and lent his voice to 2013's COD: Ghosts. Lines included: "Homies out the joint, it's party time."



#### **MILA KUNIS** The Black

Swan star has spoken of being

"addicted" to COD: "I'm not necessarily good at it, it's just fun," she revealed.



#### EMINEM

Slim Shady is a big fan of Black Ops. The rapper

even partnered with gaming company Activision in 2013 to sell 'The Marshall Mathers LP2' and an exclusive song with copies of COD: Ghosts.





"We were playing a cover and this huge brawl kicked off"



Fronteers (I-r): James Taylor, Andy Towse, Lloyd Tuton, Ellis Keogh

# **Fronteers**

Bandmates since their school days, these harmonic indie rockers are making things happen for their hometown

Supporting Blossoms at The Leadmill, Sheffield in October

POT QUIZ. GUESS the city from these quotes: "There's loads of cool people there." "It's on the rise." "It's good for gigs and festivals." "It's cultural."

One thousand points if you said "Hull". Home of The Housemartins, The Paddingtons, Everything But The Girl and, um, that's about it. But this misunderstood metropolis is a new epicentre of indie rock thanks to the city's La's-meets-The Black Keys hopefuls Fronteers.

Hull's struggling to come to terms with its new cultural respectability, though - even Fronteers' early acoustic nights were prone to

turn into Blues Brothers-style bar brawls. "We were playing a cover and this massive fight kicked off," says quitarist James Taylor, "literally the whole place."

Children of The Last Shadow Puppets and Oasis who've played together since school, Fronteers last year wrote debut single 'Youth', singer Andy Towse's ode to a love affair going the way of the Tories' tax-credit cuts. Since then they've penned a dozen songs, including full-of-life second single 'It's Up To Me Now', and set their sights on indie-rock's upper tier.

"It's great to see people going to Catfish And The Bottlemen gigs, getting excited and really enjoying the songs," says drummer Lloyd Tuton. "That's what we want at our gigs." Mark Beaumont

LISTEN 'It's Up To Me Now' is out now on Drawing Board Recordings.

**Details** 

LIVE On tour with Pretty Vicious: Nov 25 Joiners, Southampton Nov 28 Welly, Hull Nov 30 Sugarmill, Stokeon-Trent Dec 1 Cluny, Newcastle Dec 3 Riverside Room,

Newport

FACT Their first gig was on New Year's Eve 2014.

SOCIAL @fronteersband

For more on Fronteers, head to NME.com

Scousadelic jig-pop brilliance that makes breaking up sound like the easiest thing to do.







4

#### The Vaccines

Friday 13 Motorpoint Arena, Cardiff Sunday 15 International Centre, Bournemouth Monday 16 Spa, Bridlington Tuesday 17 Civic Hall, Wolverhampton Thursday 19 Brighton **WHO:** High-octane rock'n'rollers.

WHY: Latest album 'English Graffiti' is more pop than ever, meaning their songs won't get lost on these huge stages.

#### WHO'S SUPPORTING:

Palma Violets, plus New York newcomers Sunflower Bean. TICKETS: £27.50-£31.35 from NME.com/tickets



#### Alabama Shakes

Wednesday 18 & Thursday 19 O2 Academy Brixton, London

**WHO:** Alabama quartet whose authentic, soulful take on roots rock has earned them Grammy nominations, support slots for Jack White and Top 10 chart positions.

WHY: Frontwoman Brittany Howard recently broke away to indulge in bluntly-named side project Thunderbitch. Expect her mini break to breathe fresh life into her mainstay band. WHO'S SUPPORTING:

Former session musician turned Communion Records-signed soul artist Michael Kiwanuka.

TICKETS: Both nights sold out, but check secondary ticketing sites for tickets from £43.99

### 6 Paul Weller

Monday 16 Waterfront Hall Auditorium, Belfast

**WHO:** The Modfather and former frontman of The Jam of course

WHY: Paul's in a creative purple period thanks to the psych rock brilliance of recent albums 'Sonik Kicks' and 'Saturns Pattern', so expect to be both challenged by his new work and reassured by his copious hits. Recent shows have included The Jam's 'Town Called Malice' and The Style Council's 'My Ever Changing Moods'.



Manchester

JORDAN HUGHES,

Monday 16 The Dome, Brighton Tuesday 17 O2 Academy, Bristol Thursday 19 Albert Hall,

**WHO:** Glimmering Glaswegian three-piece who dabble in super smooth synth-pop.

why: They make the most sublime pop music, merging crunching synth soundscapes with Lauren Mayberry's singing stalactite of a voice. If you're lucky, she may crush a hopeless heckler's romantic entreaties for your entertainment.

#### WHO'S SUPPORTING:

Electropop trio Mansionair.

TICKETS: Sold out, but from £22 on secondary ticketing sites





The Enemy

Friday 13 Club Neo, Yeovil Sunday 15 Ku Bar, Stockton Monday 16 Fibbers, York Tuesday 17 The Ritz, Manchester Wednesday 18 The Institute, Birmingham

absence with heartfelt fourth album 'It's Automatic'.

WHY: They've always had a knack for a killer chorus. Their hooks will sound huge reverberating around venues way too small for them.

#### **WHO'S SUPPORTING:**

A host of new bands including FLESH, The Tapestry, Orphan Boy, The Incredible Magpie Band, Clay, Franko Fraize, Will And The People, and April. TICKETS: £15.40-£19.75 from NME.com/tickets

**New Order** 

Monday 16 & Tuesday 17 O2 Academy Brixton, London Thursday 19 O2 Academy, Glasgow

WHO: Manchester legends who nabbed Brandon Flowers, La Roux and more for their latest album 'Music Complete'. WHY: Who wouldn't want to hear 'Temptation' and 'Blue Monday' live? Plus, they've been slipping the odd Joy Division tune into their encores, which is like having an ice-cream shake with a dark rum chaser.

WHO'S SUPPORTING: Gloomy shoegazers The Horrors (London only);

Glasgow TBC. TICKETS: Tickets available for second London date for £47.75: otherwise sold out, but check secondary ticketing sites



#### The Maccabees

Wednesday 18 Rock City, Nottingham Thursday 19 O2 Academy, Newcastle

WHO: Indie darlings who are as adept at swooning sensitivity as they are pogo-friendly excitement.

WHY: Their latest album 'Marks To Prove It' is a true masterpiece, full of emotion and bold artistry. But if it's itchy amphetamine rock that pumps your potato, recent sets have seen them play 2007's 'Latchmere', their energetic ode to a swimming pool in Battersea.

WHO'S SUPPORTING: Drenge. TICKETS: £25.30 from NME. com/tickets

Suede

Friday 13 & Saturday 14 Roundhouse, London

WHO: Britpop stalwarts and the latest band to be crowned Godlike Genius at the NME Awards 2015 with Austin, Texas. **WHY:** These are no ordinary Suede shows – the two nights will see them premiere a feature film directed by The Libertines collaborator and NME snapper Roger Sargent, while the band will play new album 'Night Thoughts' from start to finish for the first time against the backdrop of the film. That sound is their avid fanbase shredding their blouses in excitement.

WHO'S SUPPORTING:

No details yet.

TICKETS: £36.95 from NME.com/tickets

> For tour news and live reviews go to NME.com



### **Best of the rest**

#### The 1975

Sat 14 Rock City, Nottingham Sun 15 O2 Academy, Newcastle Tue 17 Corn Exchange, Edinburgh Wed 18 The Spa, Bridlington Thu 19 Corn Exchange, Cambridge

#### **Annie Mac Presents...**

Fri 13 Rainbow, Birmingham Sat 14 O2 Academy, Glasgow

#### **Bill Ryder-Jones**

Fri 13 Gullivers, Manchester Sat 14 District, Liverpool

#### **Daughter**

Mon 16 Art School, Glasgow Wed 18 Trinity, Bristol Thu 19 St-John-At-Hackney Church, London

#### **Everything Everything**

Fri 13 O2 Academy, Newcastle Sat 14 O2 Academy, Birmingham Mon 16 Leadmill, Sheffield Tue 17 Junction, Cambridge Wed 18 O2 Academy, Bristol

#### **Ezra Furman**

**Sat 14** O2 Academy, Bristol **Sun 15** East Village Arts Club, Liverpool

Mon 16 Gorilla, Manchester Tue 17 Art School, Glasgow Wed 18 Glee Club, Nottingham

#### The Fall

Sat 14 Tivoli, Buckley

#### **Foals**

Fri 13 O2 Guildhall, Southampton Sat 14 Dreamland, Margate Sun 15 Anson Rooms, Bristol Mon 16 Corn Exchange, Cambridge

#### **Frank Turner**

Fri 13 Barrowlands, Glasgow Sat 14 University, Newcastle Sun 15 & Mon 16 Rock City, Nottingham

**Wed 18** O2 Academy, Birmingham **Thu 19** O2 Academy, Sheffield

#### **The Fratellis**

Fri 13 Copper Rooms, Coventry Sun 15 O2 Academy, Bristol Mon 16 Academy 2, Manchester Tue 17 Electric Ballroom, London Thu 19 Rock City, Nottingham

#### **Gaz Coombes**

**Fri 13** The Venue, Derby **Wed 18** Clwb Ifor Bach, Cardiff **Thu 19** Mr Kyps, Poole

#### **Happy Mondays**

Fri 13 O2 Academy, Liverpool Sat 14 O2 Academy, Newcastle Sun 15 O2 Academy, Glasgow Thu 19 Academy, Manchester

#### **Imagine Dragons**

Fri 13 Arena, Manchester Sat 14 Metro Arena, Newcastle Sun 15 SSE Hydro, Glasgow Tue 17 SSE Arena, Belfast

#### Jaakko Eino Kalevi

Wed 18 Electrowerkz, London



Manchester
"Why's it going to be great?
Because 'Rattlesnake
Highway', that's why."

#### Joey Bada\$\$

Sat 14 O2 Institute, Birmingham Mon 16 Roundhouse, London Tue 17 UEA, Norwich Thu 19 O2 Academy, Bristol

**Everything Everything** 

play various venues,

Fri 13-Wed 18

#### **Kurt Vile**

Fri 13 Motion, Bristol Mon 16 O2 ABC, Glasgow Tue 17 University Stylus, Leeds Wed 18 Ritz, Manchester

#### **Lucy Rose**

Fri 13 Warwick Arts Centre, Coventry Sat 14 Wedgewood Rooms, Portsmouth

**Sun 15** Rescue Rooms, Nottingham

**Tue 17** Sugarmill, Stoke-on-Trent **Wed 18** Forum, London

#### **Marilyn Manson**

**Thu 19** Eventim Hammersmith Apollo, London

#### **Mercury Rev**

Tue 17 Komedia, Brighton Fri 19 Sage, Gateshead

#### **The Ordinary Boys**

Fri 13 PJ Molloys, Dunfermline Sat 14 King Tut's Wah Wah Hut, Glasgow

Sun 15 Duchess, York Mon 16 The Hop, Wakefield Tue 17 Adelphi, Hull Wed 18 Engine Shed, Lincoln Thu 19 Plug, Sheffield

#### **Palma Violets**

Mon 16 The Fleece, Bristol Wed 18 Sound Control, Manchester

#### **Prides**

Fri 13 Waterfront, Norwich Sun 15 Thekla, Bristol Mon 16 Rescue Rooms, Nottingham Tue 17 Wardrobe, Leeds Thu 19 Riverside, Newcastle

#### **Reverend And The Makers**

Fri 13 Ritz, Manchester Sat 14 O2 Academy, Sheffield Mon 16 Wulfrun Hall, Wolverhampton Tue 17 Wedgewood Rooms, Portsmouth Wed 18 KOKO, London

#### Talib Kweli

Fri 13 Audio, Brighton
Sat 14 The Institute, Birmingham
Tue 17 Rescue Rooms,
Nottingham
Wed 18 Marble Factory, Bristol
Thu 19 Jazz Café, London

#### vant

Thu 19 Bullingdon, Oxford

#### The Wedding Present

Sat 14 Academy, Manchester

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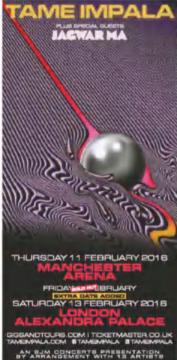
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BARCLAYCARD ARENA

FIRST DIRECT ARENA

# GOMMATIACK OF MY-Life

# Miguel

Torso baring R&B singer

# The first song I remember hearing

SADE

The Sweetest Taboo

"I remember hearing that in my mum's car early on... It's an interesting song if you know what it's about; I've read that it's rumoured to be about anal sex. Crazy."

## The song that makes me want to dance

CAMEO

Candy

"Any time this song comes on I want to dance. That bassline and the groove. It's incredible; it's just got a great mixture of sounds."



### The first album I bought

BOYZ II MEN
Cooleyhighharmony

"It was the first album by Boys II Men, and 'Motownphilly' is on it. They were killing, man.

They were insane. Go back to that album, it still jams."



# The first song I fell in love with

MICHAEL JACKSON
Bad

"Moonwalker [the 1988 Jacko anthology film] came out just as I was really able to grasp music videos and film, so that became nostalgia for me. The video for 'Bad', I think that was the peak for me, that time, that era. That entire album was just insane."

### The song I do at karaoke

TWISTED SISTER
We're Not Gonna Take It

"There are a few. One of them is 'We're Not Gonna Take It'. Then some good '90s ones, for jokes and laughs. You've got to do an N Sync song with your friends – you've got to do 'Bye Bye Bye'. Or 'Pony' by Ginuwine. I normally do songs that I know I'm not going to be able to do so I just drink way too much and mess them up. It's my time to not be a singer."

### The song that made me want to be an artist

DONNY HATHAWAY
For All We Know

"You could pick any song by Michael Jackson or Prince... and bands like The Beatles and The Rolling Stones and David Bowie really made me want to be an artist. But I'll never forget hearing 'For All We Know' by Donny Hathaway for the first time. The incredible amount of emotion in his inflection, in the enunciation of his words, in the tone of his voice and the lyrics of the song. I didn't have any concept of what being in love and what letting go of love felt like but completely understood, somehow, the pain when I heard that song."



### The song I wish I'd written

**DAVID BOWIE**Space Oddity

"That song is forever going to be classic. At the time, are you kidding me? We were just going to the Moon. The timing of it!"

# The song I can't get out of my head

I Serve The Base

"It's off Future's last album 'Dirty Sprite 2'. The beat is insane. This sh\*t is hard. It's got something really aggressive about it too. I think I like that."

### The song that reminds me of home

THE TEMPTATIONS
Mv Girl

"It reminds me of my mum for some reason. It was always in her tape deck. We had a tape that we'd always listen to on the way to school and this was on there. It's just a

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feel-good song."



The wisdom of the *NME* archives

THIS WEEK
BOB MARLEY

Reggae icon
November 10, 1979

"Where Rastafari come in [is] everyone else preach when you die you go to Heaven... I don't like that one 'cos... Where was I before I am? If Heaven's the right place where I was before I am then I should have stayed there."



W: AL HORNER PHOTOS: GETTY, DANIEL SANNW/



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